An Additional Record for Cypraea teres in the Galápagos Islands

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(Plate 12)

IN A PREVIOUS PAPER on the marine mollusks of the Galápagos Islands (EMERSON & OLD, 1965), we reported the first records for the Indo-Pacific species, Cypteac (Talostolida) teres GNELIN, 1791, in these islands. One large, nearly complete, beach specimen (A.M.N.H. No. 110483) had been obtained at Puerto Grande, Isla San Cristobal (not Isla San Salvador, as we erroneously stated). A second dead specimen, which was mentioned in our report, is now known to have been found by Mrs. Jacqueline De Roy in a fathorn of water in Academy Bay, Isla Santa Cruz.

A third specimen has since been found by Mrs. Carmen Angermeyer. It is a glossy, fresh, dead-collected specimen obtained at Sombrero, Isla San Salvador at a depth of 2 fathoms (Plate 12, Figures 7 to 9). This specimen, which is in the Angermeyer collection, is the largest example of this species that we have seen, having a length of 50 mm and a height of 22.7 mm. The specimen from Puerto Grande, although not complete, measures 46.2 mm in length and 20.7 mm in height. The largest example of this species recorded by Scuttners & Scuttners (1964, p.8) is a specimen in the British Museum (Natural History) measuring 45 mm in length. No locality was cited for it.

Dr. E. Alison Kay kindly examined our Galapagan specimens and she confirmed our identification. She commented (in litteris) that the specimen from Isla San Salvador was the largest that she had seen with the possible exception of a large fragment representing the dorsal part of a shell that was dredged off Kihei Lagoon, Maui, Hawaiian Islands, which is in the collection of Dr. C. M. Burgess. According to Dr. Kay, the fragment fits over the dorsum of the largest Galapagan specimen, and she concludes that the Hawaiian specimen must have been nearly 50 mm in length. She pointed out, however, that all other specimens she has seen from the Hawaiian Archipelago, including Midway Island, do not exceed a maximum of 35 mm in length. We have found the larger Galapagan specimen to be about 10 mm greater in length than the largest specimen with data in the 50 lots from throughout the Indo-Pacific region contained in the col-Icction of the American Museum.

In this widely ranging Indo-Pacific species, the shells exhibit two distinct forms that apparently represent sexual dimorphism. In the larger inflated form, presumably the female, a maximum length of about 36 mm is most commonly encountered. The smaller, less globose shells of the apparent males, rarely attain a maximum length greater than 30 mm. A similar dimorphic condition exists in the population occurring at Clipperton Island, the only other record for this species in the eastern Pacific. The

Explanation of Plate 12

Figures 1 to 3: Cypraea (Talostolida) teres pellucens MELVILL, 1888, Secas Island, Panama, 7°57′10″N, 82°00′45″W, shallow water, coral, 1935 (A. H. F. 447-35; Frazer, 1943); × 1.3

Figures 4 to 6: Cypraea (Talostolida) teres pellucens Melvill, 1888, off Fort Kamehameha, Oahu, Hawaii, shallow water, C. M. Burgess coll. (A. M. N. H. 91898, ex-Burgess); × 1.3

